National initiatives, activities & programs on education on SD & IU
The basic aim of the Primary education reforms in 1998 is to lay a firm foundation for the development of the personality of the child to enable him to face the challenges of life successfully as future citizens.
Principles are emphasized in designing the curriculum and the learning-teaching process.

- Create learning opportunities through effective use of the environment, instead of confining the child solely to the classroom.
- Develop environment friendly attitudes and participate actively in environment conservation activities.
- Respect the cultural points of view of others and learn to live in harmony with others as patriotic citizens of Sri Lanka and the members of the global community.
- Develop skills necessary to face challenges in a fast changing society with self-confidence.
- Sharpen the senses and provide training in mindfulness.
- Promote loving kindness to all living things natural and man made environment.
The competencies identified by the commission

• Competencies related to communication
• Competencies related to natural, social and artificial environment
• Competencies related to ethics and religion
• Competencies related to the use of leisure, enjoyment and recreation
• Competencies related to learning how to learn
Secondary level education

Some national goals for secondary level education:

• Achieve peace and harmony through national integration

• Develop individuals who appreciate the values of adopting a sustainable life style.

• Develop individuals who could adapt successfully to the changes that are taking place in the global community.

• Develop skills relevant to achieving honorable status in the international arena
Some competencies identified as important for the attainment of the above goals at secondary level.

- Competencies related to the effective communication
- Competencies related to environment
- Competencies related to national and sustainable development
- Competencies related to ethical behaviour.
Some new subjects introduced to the curriculum

• ‘Environment Studies’
• ‘Technology’,
• ‘Life Skills’,
• ‘Peace Education’.
• These subjects supply the knowledge base.
Teacher Education for Primary and Secondary Level Education

- The teacher education courses have been revised appropriately to serve the new education reforms. Teacher education consists of two major types:
  - pre service and continuing teacher education.
  - The continuing teacher education program is based on the premise that teacher education is a life long process.
  - continuing education courses supply four major types of programmes: upgrading, broadening, re-training, and refresher courses designed for the continuous professional development of teachers.
  - Pre- service teacher education curriculum is competency based and includes components relevant to the understanding of problems common to the human community as a whole
Perceived problems and requirements.

- Lack of overall national policy and a plan, (all these programs are implemented in an addhoc manner).
- No proper system to monitor and evaluate the new programs that are been implemented.
- No prioritization in activities and national agendas.
- Therefore, the need to develop a national policy and overall plan to address these issues.